

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application as reflected in the Final Official Action mailed April 5, 2005. Applicants also appreciate the allowance of Claims 17-29, 31-43, 49-53 and 55-63. Applicants have amended Claim 64 to depend from Claim 55. Applicants have canceled Claims 65-67.

The Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner Information Disclosure Statements (IDSs) filed in the present application in April, 1998 and June, 2000. Applicants also wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner an IDS that is being filed concurrently with the present Amendment. Applicants request that the PTO-1449 forms accompanying these IDSs be initialed indicating consideration of these materials, and that the initialed PTO-1449s be returned to Applicants. Copies of the April, 1998 and June, 2000 PTO-1449 forms are provided attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

The Section 112 Rejection

Claim 64 has been rejected as depending from a canceled claim. Applicants have amended Claim 64 to depend from Claim 55 and, therefore, submit that the rejection of Claim 64 has been obviated.

The Prior Art Rejections


Claims 65-67 stand rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by United States Patent No. 4,734,619 to Havel (hereinafter "Havel"). Final Action, p. 2. Applicants have canceled Claims 65-67. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the anticipation rejection has been overcome.

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Conclusion

In light of the above discussion, Applicants request entry of the present Amendment After Final as it places the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 28, 2005:



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